create better: fanzines web pages posters newsletters

computer publish

THE **EASY** WAY TO BETTER DTP

Improve your DTP skills!

in a weekend

We give you the tools and the know-how to create stunning publications of your own

ALL HIS OWN WORK

A local man has just finished his opus – a book that he wrote, illustrated and designed himself. *"It isn't actually as hard as you might think,"* explained Damien Noonan EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW p38

NEW! YOUR EXTENSIVE CLARISWORKS DESIGN COURSE STARTS HERE
TURN TO PAGE 29

PICTURE STORY

Full report p68

REVIEWS START p62

Fuji reveal their latest megapixel digital cameras and accessories

Website explosion looms!

TUTORIAL p33

The number of websites in the UK set to grow rapidly after a new magazine gave readers an easy-to-follow tutorial. *"It's so simple anyone could do it,"* commented editor Nick Veitch

■ **USB printer problems are finally solved!**

This USB to parallel converter really works! 74

Newsletter 'made up'

A charity newsletter was treated to a free makeover by professional designers. The advice was courtesy of a new magazine, *Computer Publishing* p48

PLUS LEGAL ADVICE ■ BACKUP GU ■ DTP SOFTWARE COMPARED ■ HP2100 ON TEST ■ SPECIAL OF ■ DEALING WITH WRITERS ■ LATEST NEWS ■ INTERNET EX ■ HUGE GUIDE TO PAGE PLUS

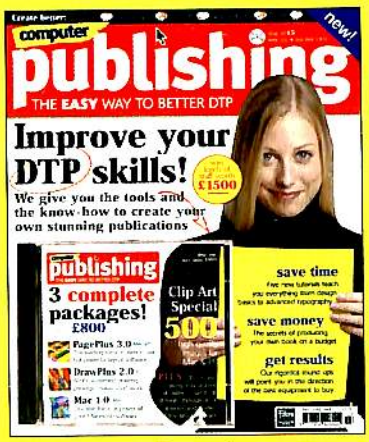
Problems Solved 84 Free proof mark chart! 53 Your Letter

The magazine which gives you everything you need to

How we made this cover!

THE **INSIDE** STORY

A cover can have many different functions, but they all follow the same basic processes...



Concepts and roughs

We had to start with some idea of what we were trying to achieve. For the first issue, we thought it was most important to convey the breadth of subjects we were going to tackle, as well as making it accessible to everyone. Our first idea turned out to be the one we went with - using a photograph of someone holding up an example of a DTPed document, which also included all the usual elements used to 'sell' the contents of the magazine. We "roughed" the idea up using some clip art, and added vague coverlines. We changed the position of the card for the final photoshoot.

'Meticulous' Miller
As well as aligning everything on his desk, Ian is responsible for lining everything up on the pages too!

Finishing touches

Apart from the price and bar code, there were a few more touches needed to make the cover look better. Ian drew some custom bullets for the skyline (the bit that says "fanzines, web pages..." across the top). Also, we put a ruler on the spine (assuming the printer has cropped the pages correctly, it really works!) to polish things off. Hurrah!

Faking it the easy way...

Model and photo shoot

We were pretty sure our idea would work, so we contacted model agencies and looked through piles of photographs. We didn't want anything too glamorous; we just wanted someone who looked natural and could potentially be a reader of our magazine. We selected Rosie and arranged a studio and photographer. This can be expensive, but you don't have to use professional models and photographers for your own publications – you just need a camera and a volunteer!

Photoshop trickery

Once we had the photographs, we scanned them in and played around with them in Adobe Photoshop. To get the positioning right, we overlaid the picture of Rosie on top of our logo. To achieve this, we had to cut out the picture and use EPS clipping paths. We weren't quite happy with the dimensions of the piece of paper either, so we made it bigger, repositioning Rosie's hand to make it look as if her arm was completely stretched out behind the paper - basically we faked it, but we're pretty pleased with the results. Photoshop was also used to add shadows and crinkles to the newsletter image we superimposed on the blank piece of paper.

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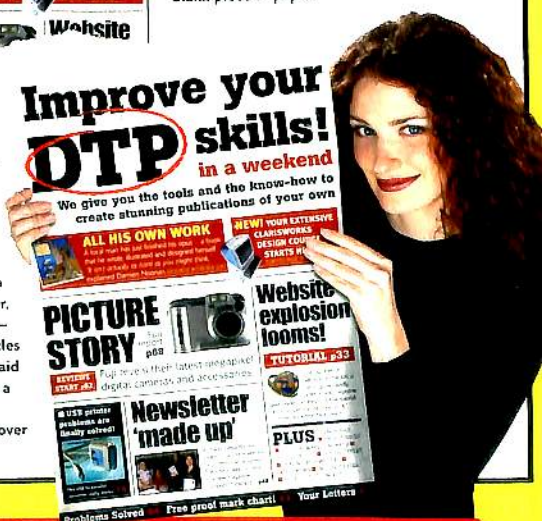
PICTURE
Website

Cover within a cover...

Now we had a big bit of paper, we decided to make it more interesting. Underneath the main cover line, we added loads of bitty news stories about things inside the magazine. The idea was to make it look a little like a real newsletter, but it also had a purpose – to draw attention to articles inside the magazine. We laid out this page as if it were a real newsletter, then imported into the main cover as a bitmap graphic.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Inside: You'll find lots more tips on how to create your own stunning publications in our tutorials and regular columns, plus we show you how we made this entire magazine!